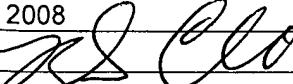




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NOTICE OF APPEAL FROM THE EXAMINER TO
THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCESDocket Number (Optional)
88730-400300

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)]

on July 21, 2008Signature Typed or printed
name Brian S. CliseIn re Application of
Frey, et al.Application Number
10/720,656Filed
11/24/2003For Distraction and Retraction System For Spinal
SurgeryArt Unit
3738Examiner
Ann M. Schillinger

Applicant hereby appeals to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the last decision of the examiner.

The fee for this Notice of Appeal is (37 CFR 41.20 (b)(1))

\$255.00

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Therefore, the fee shown above is reduced by half, and the resulting fee is: \$ 255.00

A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.

Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

The Director has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

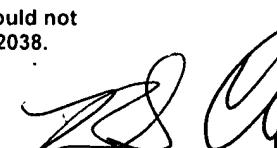
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-1351. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

A petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (PTO/SB/22) is enclosed.

07/23/2008 TLJU11 00000011 191351 10723656
01 FC:2401 255.00 DA

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

I am the

 applicant/inventor.

Signature

 assignee of record of the entire interest.See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed.
(Form PTO/SB/96)

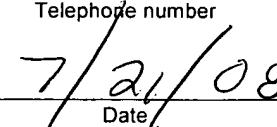
Brian S. Clise

Typed or printed name

 attorney or agent of record.Registration number 47,497.

312-460-5000

Telephone number


7/21/08
Date attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34.

Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34.

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required.
Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*. *Total of 1 forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 41.31. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11, 1.14 and 41.6. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.